

## Gallatin City-County Health Department

For more information, contact:

Health Department
215 W. Mendenhall, Rm 117
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406) 582-3100
www.gallatin.mt.gov/health

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, December 30, 2008

## First Confirmed Influenza A Case in Gallatin County

The Gallatin City-County Health Department has received the first confirmed Influenza A case in Gallatin County.

Influenza is a contagious disease that can cause fever, sore throat, chills, fatigue, cough, headache, and muscle aches. On average, 226,000 people are hospitalized every year because of influenza and 36,000 people die. The rate of hospitalization is highest for those people aged 65 and older with underlying medical conditions.

A preventative vaccine against flu is available and is recommended for all children age 6 months to 18 years; people age 50 and older; healthcare workers; residents of chronic care facilities; and others who have any condition that predisposes them to the complications of influenza.

The Gallatin City-County Health Department offers walk-in flu clinics on Tuesdays and Thursdays (except for Thursday, January 1, 2009) from 2:00 – 5:00pm. Please call the Health Department at 582-3100 for questions or visit our website at <a href="https://www.gallatin.mt.gov/health">www.gallatin.mt.gov/health</a> and click <a href="https://www.gallatin.mt.gov/health">Public Health</a> Information under Additional Links.